Dummer Yard Landfill Rt 16/Hutchins Street, Berlin, NH



DES Site Number: 198704035 ONESTOP Master Id.: 15784 Date of update: March 15, 2010

Description: This site occupies an approximately 400-acre parcel. Approximately half of this land is undeveloped and the remaining half contains four closed landfills built on top of the historic Dummer Yard complex. Dummer Yard was used as a staging and disposal area for activities associated with the former Brown Paper Company and subsequent Berlin Mill owners between 1856 and approximately 1995. The property is currently fenced and unused. The property is currently owned by Pulp & Paper of America LLC but is being managed in accordance with a Bankruptcy Court Order.

Potential Environmental Concerns: Potential concerns associated with this property include:

- Area I: Ash from bark boiler and lime mud (Avalon Risk Associates Inc., 2/4/05).
- Area II: Paper mill waste treatment sludge and 20 percent ash(Avalon Risk Associates Inc., 2/4/05).
- Area IIB: "Secure Landfill Expansion" Paper mill waste treatment sludge and 20 percent ash(Avalon Risk Associates Inc., 2/4/05).
- Area III: originally a bark stockpile then sludge put on top(Avalon Risk Associates Inc., 2/4/05).

- Area IV: originally a bark stockpile then sludge put on top with "general mill debris" on top of that (Avalon Risk Associates Inc., 2/4/05).
- Surface solid waste debris noted across site (Nobis, 2/17/06).
- Potential landfill leachate flowing toward or through Hutchins Street residential area. (DES project files, resident complaints, site visit notes).
- Possible drums and USTs at service garage not accessed as part of Phase I ESA (Nobis, 2/17/06).
- Possible residential bedrock wells on Turcotte Street Extension (2/13/95 DES internal memo).

Previous Work: A Brownfields Phase I Environmental Site Assessment dated February 17, 2006 was completed on behalf of the North Country Council Inc. This work was funded with an EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant awarded to North Country Council.

Current Work: DES authorized GZA GeoEnvironmental Inc. (GZA) to prepare a work scope and budget estimate for completion of a Phase II Environmental Site Assessment and an historical resource evaluation of the site in compliance with Section 106 of the Historical Preservation Act. The Phase II Environmental Site Assessment is expected to involve additional file review to document and investigate Recognized Environmental Concerns (RECs) missing from the Phase I Environmental Site Assessment as well as correct some of the information in the Phase I. It is also expected to include a test pit program to determine the limits of waste across the landfilled portion of the property, installation of some monitoring wells and groundwater sampling to better define groundwater contamination.

DES received a draft Phase II Assessment work scope and budget estimate in January 2010 and is currently reviewing the document.

DES expects to begin the Phase II Assessment work in May 2010. This work should be completed and available for public review in July 2010.

Copies of all available Brownfields reports for this site can be accessed from the DES ONESTOP database at ONESTOP Master Id.: 15784.

Scheduled Public Events: There are no public meetings currently scheduled for this site.

Cleanup Planning: Cleanup planning documents have not yet been prepared for this site. Cleanup planning documents will be prepared and released for public comment once the Phase II Environmental Assessment work and any necessary supplemental assessment work has been completed.

Section 106 of Historic Preservation Act: GZA will submit a Project Review Request to the New Hampshire Department of Cultural Resources – Division of Historical Resources (DHR) on behalf of DES for consultation prior to undertaking the Phase II Site Assessment.